

Tarwater established the first hotel in Flower Mound, the Flower Mound Courtyard River Walk, and Grapevine's Embassy Suites Hotel. Though Tarwater lived a life of travel and adventure, he never lost sight of North Texas and its rich history. Tarwater embodies the best of Texas as a trailblazer and dedicated family man. Acquaintances and coworkers of Tarwater alike have appreciated his sincere friendship and the joy with which he approached life and work. Scott Tarwater has fundamentally propelled Grapevine and Flower Mound into a force on the world stage and preserved its historical integrity for years to come. I am honored to recognize the life of Scott Tarwater and his exemplary service to North Texas. I thank Mr. Tarwater for his excellence and dedication to the community we all hold so dear. I offer my condolences to the Tarwater family and Scott's loved ones and hold his example close to my heart.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF PAUL LAMISON

#### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Paul Lamison, a beloved member of the Tampa Bay community, who passed away on August 4, 2022. Raised in Lakeland, Florida as one of seven siblings, Paul took great pride in his roots. Paul's dedication to journalism and sharing moments in history, big and small, that chronicled and defined our Tampa community is worthy of recognition. His devotion to family also is a great example of the quiet heroes in our lives everyday who deserve praise and honor.

As Chief Photojournalist for Tampa's WFLA News Channel 8, Paul was a familiar voice and face for viewers and News Channel 8 staff alike throughout the course of his nearly 30-year career. Working firmly behind the camera for much of his career, Paul went on to be known as the man with 'the best seat in the house' when he transitioned to his integral role on the morning team and as News Channel 8's 'eye in the sky' in the Eagle 8 news helicopter. Reporting on events from the daily morning commute to celebrations of sports championships to the Gasparilla parade and special episodes in the lives of Tampa Bay area residents, Paul connected the community with professionalism and good cheer. Those who knew Paul loved him, describing him as a passionate, fun-loving person and a light that lifted up everyone around him. Paul's energy and joy was a constant, experienced both on and off screen. His authenticity and commitment have left an immensely positive impact on a generation of journalists, as well as his family and friends. Paul's legacy will continue to live through his siblings along with his wife, Nerissa, and their daughters Emily, Kate, Ava, and Emma.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor Paul Lamison for his lifelong dedication to journalism and to sharing stories of all the great people and places that make up our community. We are all eternally grateful for his immense contributions. His legacy

will live on and inspire many others in the Tampa Bay community and beyond for years to come.

#### HONORING SENIOR CHIEF MICHAEL BELINKIE

#### HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Senior Chief Michael Belinkie after twenty years of service in the United States Navy. Born and raised in Richmond, Virginia, Senior Chief Belinkie grew up in a musical family with generations of cantors leading religious services at prominent synagogues in Richmond and New York. He further refined his talents as a classical tenor while earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in music and economics at the University of Virginia where he also performed with the Virginia Glee Club, Coro Virginia, and in the university's renowned acapella group, the Virginia Gentleman. While in college, Operafestival di Roma invited Senior Chief Belinkie to spend a summer abroad training and performing with other promising young opera singers from around the world.

Acknowledging the challenges of pursuing a successful career in music, Senior Chief Belinkie graduated from George Mason University's School of Law. During his legal studies, he continued to perform locally in northern Virginia, and he ultimately auditioned for an opening for a tenor in the United States Navy Band. He learned he passed the Virginia Bar Exam a few weeks before shipping off to boot camp.

Senior Chief Belinkie enlisted in the United States Navy in 2002 and has had the honor of performing for presidential inaugurations, state dinners, state funerals, and for foreign dignitaries. An avid sports fan, the United States Navy Band also allowed him to sing at two Super Bowls, the World Series, and countless other professional sports events. Known by fans throughout the United States for his incredible vocal range and high falsetto, videos of his renditions of a "Jersey Boys" medley, "White Christmas," and others quickly went viral on social media, garnering more than 100 million views. In 2005, Senior Chief Belinkie sang the world premiere solo of "A Season of Miracles" by Marvin Hamlisch at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, with Hamlisch accompanying on piano.

I give my heartfelt congratulations to Michael Belinkie, a lifelong Virginian, on his distinguished career and retirement from the United States Navy Band. I wish him well in his next endeavors and hope he continues to lend his talents to the great state of Virginia.

#### HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE RANDY NIX

#### HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, and a self-

less public servant, State Representative Randy Nix of LaGrange, Georgia. Representative Nix was born in Holtville, Alabama. He attended local schools and graduated from Troy State University with a degree in business. Following graduation, Randy served as a chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Army Reserve for five years. He went on to serve seven years in the Alabama Air National Guard, where his final assignment was a role as the weapons system officer flying the RF4-C Phantom aircraft. He was honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

Representative Nix also had a successful career in the financial services industry. He is currently a pastor at the Hillcrest United Methodist Church in LaGrange. Along with his service to the district in the Georgia General Assembly, Randy is very active in the local community. He previously served as president of both the Boys and Girls Club of West Georgia and the West Georgia Technical College Foundation Board, and is currently a Rotarian.

As Representative Nix approaches his retirement, I would like to recognize the sixteen years of unwavering service he has provided to the citizens of District 69. Serving his community is his passion, and his retirement is hard earned and well deserved. May God continue to bless Representative Nix and his wife, Debra, and their children, Julie and Jess, in the years to come.

#### WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY 2022

#### HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in honor of Women's Entrepreneurship Day, which is celebrated around the world each year on November 19th.

Women-owned U.S. firms make up nearly 20 percent of all firms that employ people and this number is growing. There are nearly 13 million women-owned firms in the U.S. alone and they employ close to 10 million people. As a testament to their success, women-owned firms reported revenues of nearly \$1.8 trillion. This is truly astounding and shows you how vital women are to the economy. I applaud these women entrepreneurs and their economically vital businesses.

I also applaud the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement, which is spearheaded by Wendy Diamond. Since it launched in 2013, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization has annually funded one thousand impoverished women with microloans to start their entrepreneurial journey, hosted a nationwide entrepreneurship training program for 60,000 female college students and early-stage entrepreneurs in Saudi Arabia, supported Restart Academy, which provides educational services for 13–21-year-old students in transitional settings, provided financial literacy education to one thousand rural women in the Philippines, and partnered with a Uruguayan university to offer scholarships to young women.

Women's Entrepreneurship Day is now celebrated in 144 countries and 65 universities and colleges internationally, with numerous global ambassadors. The Women's Entrepreneurship Day mission is to empower the nearly four billion women worldwide to be catalysts

of change and uplift the over 388 million women and girls living in poverty around the world.

As in past years, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization Pioneer Awards recognize and honor distinguished women who are leaders and innovators across multiple fields with inspiring accomplishments. This year's honorees include:

Janice Bryant Howroyd—Founder and CEO of The ActOne Group of Companies—Business Pioneer

Lele Pons—Celebrity Influencer, NFT and Crypto Enthusiast, 100 million Followers—Influencer Pioneer

Beverly Johnson—Iconic Supermodel—Model Pioneer

Wendy Fisher—Artist, President of the Board of Trustees of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation—Art Pioneer

Neeti Mehta—Co-Founder and Chief Impact Officer of Automation Anywhere—Technology Pioneer

Amanda Feilding—Countess of Wemyss and March, Founder of the Beckley Foundation, and Psychedelics Pioneer—Science Pioneer

Mitzi Perdue—Founder of CERES Farms, Philanthropist, and Anti-Human Trafficking Advocate—Philanthropy Pioneer

Coco Rocha—Founder of the Coco Rocha Model Camp and Supermodel—Fashion Pioneer

Marta Belcher—Chair of the Filecoin Foundation and General Council and Head of Policy for Protocol Labs—Web3 Pioneer

Madam Speaker, I urge the entire House to recognize these role models, and to celebrate Women's Entrepreneurship Day this year.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NOTRE DAME ACADEMY BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Notre Dame Academy Boys Cross Country Team for winning their first Division 2 State Championship Title.

On Saturday, October 29th, the Notre Dame Boys Cross Country Team traveled to the Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids to compete in the 2022 Wisconsin State Cross Country Championships. After an incredible season by both the Boys and Girls teams the Boys successfully secured the state title.

This state title is a remarkable achievement as the team has secured runner-up finishes in three of the last four seasons. Following a season full of hard work and determination, the Boys Cross Country Team has achieved greatness and will be remembered by the Green Bay community for years to come. Led by Isaac Nowak, who took fourth place and Joseph Stumpf, who took twentieth overall in the race this team was able to surpass the previous runner-up finishes. With the help of great runners Braeden Tilot, Joseph Hunt, Jackson Fogarty, Bryce Hawley, and Federrico Auricchio they were able to accomplish their goal of a State Title. I commend them all for an outstanding performance at the state championships.

Achieving the title of State Champion is a testament to the hard work and dedication that the coaches and athletes display every day of the season. Finishing at State with 81 points to secure the win, the Notre Dame Boys Cross Country team has shown consistent improvement and I wish them nothing but the best in seasons to come.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to Head Coach Gard and the entire Notre Dame Cross Country team for this outstanding accomplishment. It is my honor to recognize these young men and I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding their unwavering commitment and dedication to their sport.

#### INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY REPORT ON MYANMAR

#### HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a member of the International Parliamentary Inquiry into the global response to the crisis in Myanmar. Therefore, I include in the RECORD the executive summary of our final report.

Since the Myanmar military staged a coup on 1 February 2021, the situation in the country has steadily deteriorated. The military junta, led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, has waged a brutal war of attrition against its own people, committing countless atrocities and ruining the country's economy. Military forces have killed at least 2,371 people and displaced hundreds of thousands, bringing the total number of internally displaced persons in the country to over 1.3 million. The junta has also jailed more than 15,000 political prisoners and made routine use of torture against those arrested, all while launching a far-reaching crackdown on freedoms of expression and association, including an intense repression of independent media and civil society.

Nevertheless, the people of Myanmar have resisted. The massive peaceful demonstrations in the coup's immediate aftermath, as well as the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) that saw hundreds of thousands join a general strike, including throughout the bureaucracy, demonstrated the population's overwhelming rejection of a return to military rule. The coup has also inspired an unprecedented level of unity among those opposed to the military, including across ethnic lines.

In April 2021, the National Unity Government (NUG) of Myanmar was formed, bringing together parliamentarians ousted in the coup, ethnic minority representatives and civil society actors. The NUG rightly claims a mandate as the legitimate representative of the Myanmar people. It enjoys widespread popular legitimacy and support, especially in the country's heartland, and represents the most inclusive government in Myanmar's history. The NUG has expressed a commitment to establishing a new constitution and a genuine federal democracy in Myanmar, which would represent a major step toward fulfilling the aspirations for autonomy of the country's ethnic minorities.

The junta's attempts to subdue the resistance with extreme violence failed dramatically, and only served to exacerbate existing tensions and drive some anti-junta activists to

turn to armed struggle to defend themselves. Anti-military militia groups known as people's defense forces (PDFs)—some under the command of the NUG—have been established across the country, including in areas that had been relatively peaceful before. The coup has also triggered a new wave of violence between the military and ethnic armed organizations (EAOs), which have been fighting for autonomy for decades in the country's borderlands. Some of these EAOs, such as the armed wings of the Karen National Union (KNU) and the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO), have allied themselves with the NUG. Not all EAOs have formally joined the anti-military struggle, as Myanmar's political landscape remains extremely complex and fractured.

The escalating violence has precipitated the near collapse of the economy and an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. Myanmar's GDP has dropped 13 percent since 2019, and 40 percent of the country's population now lives below the national poverty line. Despite the increased needs, humanitarian actors have struggled to reach vulnerable and remote populations, as the military has placed severe limitations on humanitarian access.

The international community has proven largely unable to respond effectively to the crisis. The junta's international allies—most prominently Russia and China—have emerged as steadfast and uncritical supporters, supplying both weapons and legitimacy to an otherwise isolated regime. Foreign governments that profess support for democracy have not backed up their rhetoric with the same force of action, however. While a number of countries have imposed sanctions targeting junta leaders and their personal assets, these efforts remain uncoordinated and have failed to successfully target key revenue-generating entities, such as the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE). The United Nations has been particularly hampered by internal divisions and has proved to be unable to project influence. The NUG has attracted supporters globally and continues to occupy Myanmar's seat at the UN, but most governments have been hesitant to formally recognize it, despite calls from parliaments and advocates to do so.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), of which Myanmar is a member, has been similarly plagued by internal divisions and unable to respond effectively. The bloc's "Five-Point Consensus," signed in April 2021 and aimed at addressing the crisis, has utterly failed, hampered by a lack of will on the part of all ASEAN member-states to enforce it, and a military leadership in Myanmar that did not show any intention of implementing it from the beginning. While some member-states, such as Malaysia, have called for a new approach, including direct engagement with the NUG and other pro-democracy forces, others, including Thailand or Cambodia, have persisted as junta enablers.

As Myanmar slides into civil war, the possibility for a negotiated solution to the conflict has all but closed completely. The dialogue prescribed in ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus is impossible under the current conditions. Responsibility lies with the junta, which has shown no willingness to engage with those who oppose it and has instead relied exclusively on brute force in its attempt to stamp out any opposition. The execution of four political prisoners in July 2022, the country's first